

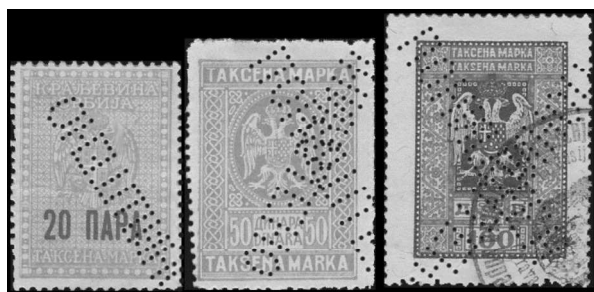
It's a Bosnian Revenue Punch

Bob Szymanski (LM-145) in response to the note on p. 39 of last month's *Bulletin*)

Here are copies of the obverse and reverse of three copies of Serbian Revenues of which I have over 100 copies including one poorly punched copy in a document that won't scan well.

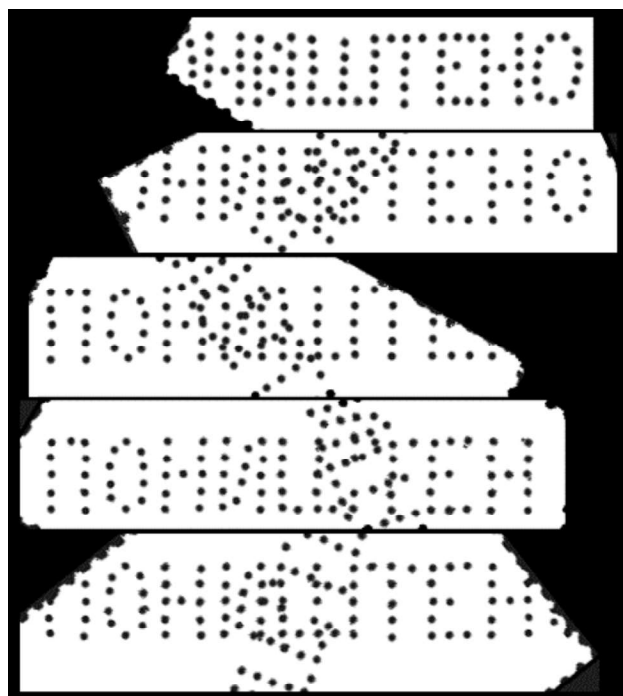
The punch is so long that it is just about impossible to get the whole punch on one stamp, even on the larger revenues pictured. These are the best copies I possess, that show the most of the punch. Interestingly, on most of my copies, the punch was used crosswise with two intersecting punches. Overkill! There was little chance these would ever be used a second time.

It is my understanding that these were used as cancel punches in documents. I have never seen one on a letter. The punch on the document that I have goes through both the stamps and the document as would be expected. I do not know of this patterns use outside of Serbia or Serbia as part of Yugoslavia but the copy shown could indicate that it may have seen revenue use in Bosnia as well.



Ed: At this point I couldn't leave well enough alone – my Photoshop compulsion kicked in.

Below are the five punched patterns isolated from the three stamps shown above. They are presented, I hope, in the same orientation.



The complete pattern which emerges from these stamps is “П О Н И Ш Т Е Н О”. At least two dies of this pattern are seen above. The top pattern differs significantly from the other four in both the size and shape of the characters. Note that a partial of this item is presented in Schwerdt's *The World Perfins Catalog – Europe Section* under Serbia, without further discussion.

Anyway, an answer – and yet another opportunity for further research.